

Message Text

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ORIGIN ORM-02

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O P 182149Z YUG 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMCONSUL HONG KONG IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY BANGKOK IMMEDIATE
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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SREF

SUBJECT: INDOCHINESE REFUGEES - PAROLE FOR 15,000

REF: (A) STATE 178333 (NOTAL); (B) STATE 283305 (NOTAL);
(C) HONG KONG 9215

1. ON 11 AUGUST 77 THE ATTORNEY GENERAL AUTHORIZED THE PAROLE OF 15,000 INDOCHINESE REFUGEES INTO THE U.S., 8,000 OF THEM FROM INLAND CAMPS IN THAILAND, 7,000 OF THEM BOAT CASE REFUGEES FROM THAILAND AND ELSEWHERE IN ASIA WHERE THEY HAVE TEMPORARY ASYLUM.

2. THE 8,000 FROM THE INLAND CAMPS WILL QUALIFY IF THEY ARE WITHIN THE FOLLOWING CRITERIA, ARE NOT INADMISSIBLE UNDER THE IMMIGRATION AND NATIONALITY ACT, AND HAVE NOT BEEN OFFERED PERMANENT RESETTLEMENT BY ANOTHER COUNTRY:

CATEGORY I ENCOMPASSES CLOSE RELATIVES OF UNITED STATES CITIZENS, LAWFUL PERMANENT RESIDENTS, OR INDOCHINESE GRANTED REFUGEE STATUS IN THE UNITED STATES. CLOSE RELATIVES ARE CONSIDERED TO BE SPOUSE, PARENT, SON, DAUGHTER, UNMARRIED SIBLING, GRANDPARENT, AND UNMARRIED GRANDCHILD.

CATEGORY II INCLUDES FORMER UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES WHO HELD SUPERVISORY OR OTHERWISE MEANINGFUL

POSITIONS FOR AT LEAST SIX MONTHS SUBSEQUENT TO JANUARY 1,
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1972. (WORKERS SUCH AS JANITORS, DRIVERS, GARDENERS, AND GUARDS ARE EXCLUDED UNLESS THEY WERE EMPLOYED BY THE U.S. FOR AT LEAST 10 YEARS.)

CATEGORY III CONSISTS OF THOSE REFUGEES WHO WORKED CLOSELY WITH U.S. MISSION, REFUGEES EDUCATED OR TRAINED IN U.S. SCHOOLS OR INSTALLATIONS OR UNDER U.S. AUSPICES, AND REFUGEES WHOSE STATUS AND POSITION IN THE FORMER GOVERNMENTS OF VIETNAM, LAOS, OR CAMBODIA POSE PARTICULAR OBSTACLES TO THEIR ABSORPTION IN THIRD COUNTRIES. IN ADDITION, THIS CATEGORY INCLUDES THOSE REFUGEES WHOSE PERSONAL ACCOMPLISHMENTS OR EMINENCE WOULD BENEFIT OUR COUNTRY.

CATEGORY IV IS FOR A LIMITED NUMBER OF REFUGEES WHO DO NOT FALL WITHIN ONE OF THE PRECEDING CATEGORIES, BUT IN WHOSE CASES THERE ARE OBVIOUS COMPELLING HUMANITARIAN REASONS FOR PAROLE.

ACCOMPANYING CLOSE RELATIVES OF PRINCIPAL APPLICANT QUALIFYING WITHIN THE FIRST THREE CATEGORIES MAY BE AC-

CORDED THE SAME CATEGORY AS THE PRINCIPAL REFUGEE. SUCH RELATIVES ARE SPOUSE, PARENT, GRANDPARENT, UNMARRIED SON, UNMARRIED DAUGHTER, UNMARRIED SIBLINGS, AND UNMARRIED GRANDCHILD.

3. THE CRITERIA TO BE APPLIED IN SELECTING THE 8,000 REFUGEES FOR PAROLE FROM THAI INLAND CAMPS WILL NOT OBTAIN IN THE ACCEPTANCE OF BOAT CASE REFUGEES. THEY WILL, HOWEVER, BE USED TO ESTABLISH A PRIORITY OF MOVEMENT UNDER THE NEW PROGRAM. THUS, THE FIRST PHASE OF THE PROGRAM WILL FOCUS ON THOSE REFUGEES WHO HAVE SOME TIES WITH THE U.S., HAVE EXPRESSED A DESIRE TO ENTER THE U.S., AND HAVE NOT BY THAT DATE BEEN ACCEPTED BY ANOTHER COUNTRY. CRITERIA FOR THE CURRENT CE PROGRAM FOR BOAT CASE REFUGEES WILL PROVIDE A GUIDE TO THE CONSULAR/REFUGEE OFFICERS IN UNCLASSIFIED

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IDENTIFYING THOSE WITH U.S. TIES. IN THE FIRST PHASE, INS OFFICERS WILL INTERVIEW BOAT CASE REFUGEES DURING LATE SEPTEMBER WHO ARE IDENTIFIED BY THE CONSULAR/REFUGEE OFFICER AS FALLING WITHIN ONE OF THE CATEGORIES, WHO ARE SECURITY CLEARED, AND WHO HAVE NOT BY THAT TIME BEEN OFFERED RESETTLEMENT BY ANOTHER COUNTRY. FOR THOSE REFUGEES AUTHORIZED FOR PAROLE BY INS, VOLAGS WILL THEN UNDERTAKE SPONSORSHIP SEARCH AND VERIFICATION, WITH MOVEMENT TO THE U.S. TO BE ARRANGED BY ICEM WHEN SPONSOR VERIFICATION IS RECEIVED BY CONSULAR SECTION REFUGEE OFFICER. (INS HAS

ALREADY APPROVED MANY OF THESE REFUGEES WHO APPLIED FOR THE CE PROGRAM, AND VOLAGS HAVE ALREADY PROPOSED SPONSORS FOR SOME; THUS THE FIRST PHASE IS IN FACT UNDERWAY.) AFTER AN INTERVAL IN WHICH OTHER COUNTRIES WILL HAVE A FURTHER OPPORTUNITY TO ACCEPT BOAT CASE REFUGEES NOT YET APPROVED FOR U.S. PAROLE, A SECOND ROUND OF INS INTERVIEWS WILL TAKE PLACE IN WHICH REFUGEES MAY BE ACCEPTED WITHOUT REGARD TO THE CRITERIA, IF THEY HAVE NOT RECEIVED A RESETTLEMENT OFFER FROM ANOTHER COUNTRY AND IF THEY ARE NOT OTHERWISE INADMISSIBLE. VOLAGS WILL THEN SEARCH FOR SPONSORSHIPS FOR THOSE REFUGEES APPROVED IN THE SECOND ROUND OF INTERVIEWS, AND MOVEMENT TO THE U.S. WILL BE ARRANGED BY ICEM WHEN SPONSOR VERIFICATION HAS BEEN RECEIVED BY THE CONSULAR OFFICER. (ANSWERS TO PUBLIC AND CONGRESSIONAL INQUIRIES RESPECTING THE SELECTION OF BOAT CASES WITHIN THE 15,000 PAROLE PROGRAM SHOULD ACKNOWLEDGE THAT THE CRITERIA NOW IN EFFECT FOR CE PROGRAM FOR BOAT CASES AND THOSE TO BE UTILIZED IN SELECTING THE 8,000 REFUGEES FROM INLAND CAMPS WILL NOT REPEAT NOT BE EMPLOYED IN FILLING THE 7,000 SPACES, BUT THAT CRITERIA ARE BEING USED TO ESTABLISH PRIORITY OF MOVEMENT.)

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4. EXCEPTIONS TO THE REQUIREMENT THAT ONLY THOSE WITHOUT A RESETTLEMENT OFFER FROM ANOTHER COUNTRY WILL BE CONSIDERED FOR U.S. PAROLE MAY BE MADE FOR THOSE PRINCIPAL APPLICANTS WHO ARE IN CATEGORY I, AND WHO DO NOT HAVE A RELATIVE IN THE COUNTRY OFFERING RESETTLEMENT AS CLOSE AS THE RELATIVE IN THE U.S. CONFERRING ELIGIBILITY.

5. DETAILED INSTRUCTIONS ON IMPLEMENTATION OF PAROLE FOR BOTH BOAT CASES AT ALL ACTION ADDRESSEE POSTS AND INLAND CAMPS IN THAILAND WILL FOLLOW IN SEPTEL. VANCE

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Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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